expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Crop estimates

*275. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) latest estimate of production of major agricultural commodities during the current year 2003-04;

(b) actual production during the preceding year;

(c) what are the reasons for the rise/fall; and

(d) whether there is a rise in per capita availability of foodgrains, considering the mid-year estimate of population, as compared to last year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) The estimated production of foodgrains, oilseeds, cotton, jute and sugarcane during 2003-04 *vis-a-vis* 2002-03 may be seen from the enclosed Statement (*See* below). As per the First Advance Estimates for Kharif crops of 2003-04, the production of Kharif rice is 75.05 million tonnes, which is 12.8% more than the estimated Kharif rice production of 2002-03. The production of Kharif coarse cereals is estimated at 27.96 million tonnes, which is 38.9% more than the corresponding production level of last year. The production of Kharif pulses during 2003-04 is estimated at 5.44 million tonnes, which is 41.7% more than the corresponding figure last year while the production of Kharif oilseeds is estimated at 15.08 million tonnes, which is 63.6% more than the corresponding figure last year. In the case of cotton and jute also, the estimated production in 2003-04 is higher than that in 2002-03. However, the estimated production of sugarcane at 261.37 million tonnes during 2003-04 is 6.2% less than the last year's production, which reflects the fall in production of sugarcane in Maharashtra due to incidence of pests.

(c) The favourable rainfall received from the South-West monsoon contributed significantly to higher production of agricultural commodities

during 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03. The rainfall during the South-West monsoon was excess/normal in 33 out of 36 Meteorological Sub-Divisions of the country, and the total rainfall for the country as a whole during 1st June to 30th September, 2003 was 102% of its Long Period Average.

(d) For the year 2003-04, production estimates of Kharif crops only are available. Therefore, the per capita net availability of foodgrains cannot be assessed for the current year. However, for the year 2002, the per capita net availability of foodgrains was provisionally placed at 179.3 kilograms (kgs), which was 18% more than the corresponding figure of 151.9 kgs. in 2001.

Statement

Estimated production of foodgrains, Oilseeds, Cotton, Jute and Sugarcane during 2003-04 vis-a-vis 2002-03

(Million Tonnes)

Crops	2002-03$	2003-04@
1. Rice		
Kharif	66.51	75.05
Rabi	9.21	
Total	75.72	
2. Wheat	69.32	
3. Coarse Cereals		
Kharif	20.13	27.96
Rabi	6.09	
Total	26.22	
4. Pulses		
Kharif	3.84	5.44
Rabi	7.47	
Total	11.31	
5. Foodgrains (1+2+3+4)		
Kharif	90.48	108.45
Rabi	92.09	
Total	182.57	

Crops		2002-03$	2003-04@
6. Oilseeds			
	Kharif	9.22	15.08
	Rabi	6.53	
	Total	15.75	
7. Cotton*		9.31	13.12
8. Jute**		9.72	10.13
9. Sugarcane		278.56	261.37

Note: No estimates have been made for Rabi crops of 2003-04 season.
$ As per the fourth Advance Estimates released on 1.7.2003
@ As per the First Advance Estimates released on 30.9.2003
* million bales of 170 kgs. each
** million bales of 180 kgs. each

Setting up of Indian Institute of Social Sciences

*276. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed to set up Indian Institute of Social Sciences on the same standards as the IITs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the teaching in universities is far below the world standards; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the budgetary allocation for existing institutes of social sciences during the last five years in comparison with S&T?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) There is no proposal to set up Indian Institute of Social Sciences on the same standards as the IITs in the country.

According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC is paying due importance on the